

IN JAIL TWO YEARS FOR WHAT?

Workers of America! Do you know that twenty or more innocent workingmen are now being slowly tortured to death in the Bastilles of Kansas? The men in question are those that have been held for two years without trial, on that is known as the Wichita indictment. The charges of conspiracy against these victims are so vague that to the average fair-minded individual it seems incredible that such an injustice can be imposed. But the fact of the matter is that this group is undergoing the most vindictive persecution known in the history of American labor annals. Never before has a group of men undergone such a rigid ordeal.

The despicable forces back of this damnable outrage, are determined to have the blood of these men. The scurrilous sheets, called news-

papers, spout their venom with fury. The oligarchy of Kansas and Oklahoma are set upon crushing out every semblance of unionism. That is the reason why they are so intolerably insistent in slowly murdering these men, so as to hold them up as example in frightening other workers into submission and keep them from organizing. The Right to Organize belongs to every man! Keep it!

The history of the Wichita case has been told to the public on numerous occasions. The only crime of these defendants was in upholding their inalienable right to organize for better working conditions in the oil fields of Kansas and Oklahoma. They are in jail because they stood by their class! They are in jail because they tried to make this a better world to live in! They fought for you, Mr. Workingman, not by force or violence, but by peaceful methods of education and organization.

What are you going to do about it? Are you going to sit idly by and see these innocent victims sent to oblivion by the blood-thirsty masters? For two years the Wichita defendants have gone through a Living Hell! They have been quartered in the filthiest and most unhealthy medieval dungeons that is known to mankind. One of the boys died last fall. Three others are mentally unbalanced, due to the long confinement. One of these has been examined

two for his sanity and ordered removed to a hospital for mental treatment but today he still lies in the filthy and vermin-infested Wyandotte County Jail at K. C., Kansas.

The health of the rest of these men is shattered, and they are but shells of their former selves. They are undergoing physical deterioration and grow weaker day by day. The few men at Lawrence, Kansas, are practically in Solitary Confinement. No exercise can be had there because the jail tanks are so small that only six normal steps can be taken one way. Several others are at Topeka, Kansas, incarcerated in a bastille so foul and filthy that it is a shame to call it a jail; and what is more, the place has been condemned! The rest of the men are undergoing the persecution at Hutchinson, Kansas. Remember, all these defendants are being slowly murdered by the powers that be!

During this 19-months period these men have been held under excessive bail, with such conditions imposed that it was impossible to meet them. Recently, however, a very few of the men obtained bond reductions and are not all released yet. But why are not the rest of the men admitted to reasonable bonds? Why this petty persecution and discrimination? Have not the constitutional rights of the men been trampled upon? Can't you see that these inno-

cent victims are in the hands of the most vindictive frame-up gang that can be conceived of?

Workers of America! Wake up! Arise in all your splendid might! What the industrial tyrant are doing to these men today, they may do to you tomorrow, unless you protest! Assert yourselves like men in behalf of these victims! Publicity is needed, now! Don't keep still until they are free! Shout it from the house-tops! Demand the immediate release of all Industrial and Political Prisoners! Now is the Time! Strike the Blow while the Iron is Hot!

Write for other literature to Wm. D. Haywood, Sec'y. General Defense Committee, 1001 West Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

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